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**Date:** 3/4/2010

**Subject:** Section 7 Endangered Species Act Consultation -- Grand Traverse Fire Station, Grand Traverse County, Michigan

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has created an Environmental Assessment for the construction of an approximately 10,000 square feet fire station, associated parking lot and storm water detention basin located at N 44° 42' 59.14" and W 85° 40' 37.32" in Grand Traverse County, Michigan. In compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, a review of the potential impacts to federally listed endangered, threatened and candidate species has been completed. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife technical assistance website, the following federally listed species are known to occur in Grand Traverse County: Kirkland's Warbler (endangered), Pitcher's Thistle (threatened), and Eastern Massasauga (candidate).

The proposed site consists of a vacant grassy meadow. The proposed site is surrounded by a residential structure to the north and natural areas to the east, west and south. Project area is not located within identified flood plain areas and no effect on potential flood plain species is anticipated. There are no natural sand dune areas suitable for habitat for Pitcher's Thistle present on the proposed project site. Trees present at the project site must be removed for site preparation. These mature trees primarily consist of species including maple, ash, beech, basswood, white pine, red pine and spruce. No stands of jack pine are present on the proposed project site, which are known habitats for Kirkland's Warbler.

Based on the above analysis, we conclude that the project activity is not likely to adversely affect federally listed threatened and endangered species.